

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims (strikethrough indicating deletion and underline indicating insertion) as follows:

1. (currently amended) An enclosure for a pet litter pan comprising:

a substantially rigid frame comprising a top panel, first and second side panels, a front panel and a back panel, forming an enclosure bounding an interior space for receiving a litter pan;

a moisture-resistant plastic stranded material applied onto said frame; and

wherein the front panel defines an access opening through the stranded material and the frame for permitting pet access to the interior space, and further comprising a hinged coupling adjacent a bottom edge of the front panel whereby the front panel can be pivotally opened to expose an interior face of the front panel; and

further comprising a pair of rails extending above the interior face of the front panel, each rail having a first end adjacent the bottom edge of the front panel and a second end adjacent a top edge of the front panel, and each rail being positioned a distance away from the side edges of the front panel.
2. (previously presented) The enclosure of Claim 1, wherein the top panel, the first and second side panels, the front panel and the back panel comprise generally flat panels assembled together.
3. (previously presented) The enclosure of Claim 2, wherein the generally flat panels are rectangular and assembled in a box-like structure.
4. (original) The enclosure of Claim 2, wherein the box-like structure has an open bottom.

5. (original) The enclosure of Claim 2, wherein the panels are attached to one another by at least one pin and ferrule coupling.
 6. (original) The enclosure of Claim 2, wherein the panels are attached to one another by at least one connector foot comprising a resilient block for supporting the enclosure on a floor and for engaging cooperating posts of the panels.
 7. (original) The enclosure of Claim 6, further comprising a catch tray for resting a litter pan thereon.
 8. (original) The enclosure of Claim 6, further comprising a removable catch tray having at least one notched corner for engagement with one of said at least one connector foot.
- 9-10 (cancelled)
11. (currently amended) The enclosure of Claim 1, wherein the releasable connection comprises further comprising a latch mounted on an interior face of the enclosure for locking the front panel in a closed position.
 12. (currently amended) An enclosure for housing a pet litter pan in an interior portion thereof, said enclosure comprising an openable panel having an interior face and an exterior face and being pivotal between a closed position and an open position, and further comprising at least two rails extending above and along the interior face of the openable panel, each of said rails being aligned in a direction extending outwardly from the interior portion of the enclosure towards the top edge of the openable panel when the openable panel is in its open position for sliding said litter pan thereon during insertion and removal of the litter pan to and from the interior portion, and wherein each of said rails is positioned a distance from the side edges of the openable panel.

13. (original) The enclosure of Claim 12, wherein said openable panel is pivotally mounted along a bottom edge thereof.
14. (original) The enclosure of Claim 12, further comprising a releasable latch along a top edge thereof.
15. (original) The enclosure of Claim 12, wherein said openable panel comprises an opening for allowing a pet to enter and exit the enclosure.
16. (previously presented) The enclosure of Claim 12, comprising a top panel having first and second side edges and a rear edge, each of the first and second side edges and rear edge comprising at least one ferrule, said enclosure further comprising first and second side panels and a rear panel, each of said first and second side panels and said rear panel comprising pins for engagement within said ferrules of the top panel to secure the side and rear panels to the top panel.
17. (original) The assembly of Claim 16, wherein said pins comprise hooks with free ends pointed toward the rear panel, and wherein the rear panel extends across substantially the entire width of the enclosure, whereby when assembled, the first and second side panels are held captive against the rear panel.

18-22 (cancelled)

23. (currently amended) An enclosure for a pet litter pan comprising a pivotally opening panel having a releasable connection at a top edge thereof and a hinged attachment at a bottom edge thereof whereby the top edge of the pivotally opening panel can be lowered outwardly for accessing an interior portion of the enclosure, said pivotally opening panel comprising at least two raised rails extending along an interior face thereof for sliding a litter pan thereon during insertion and removal of the litter pan from the enclosure, each of said raised rails extending from a first end proximal the bottom edge of the pivotally opening panel to

a second end proximal the top edge of the pivotally opening panel and each of said rails being positioned a distance from the side edges of the pivotally opening panel.

24. (canceled)

25. (cancelled)